

DEATH IN RIOTING OVER NEW PASTOR

500 Friends of Deposed Minister Fight Pennsylvania Politics at a Polish Church

TROOPERS BADLY HURT

Honorable Re Jan 16 - George F.

Russ of this city, Sheriff of Luzerne county, with twelve members of the State Constabulary, went to Dupont, near here, today to see that the Rev. Francis Kurkowski, new pastor of the Polish Roman Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, was not molested in the holding of services.

Five hundred men and women, friends of Father Edward Guzwa, the deposed

The Sheriff asked the crowd to make way for their new pastor. As he spoke the church bell tolled. It was the signal. In a second the mob charged the Sheriff and constabulary. Capt. Leon Pitches of the constabulary staggered back from the gate. He had been hit over the head with a club. As he dropped unconscious into the arms of one of his men a stone

The constabulary then brought their guns and riot sticks into action. Stones, clubs and bullets filled the air. Ross Humer of Carlisle, Pa., a trooper, was struck on the head with a club, receiving a fractured skull. Corporal Albert Carlson had his shoulder broken. Other troopers had their teeth either knocked out or loosened. None escaped injury.

Sheriff Buss telephoned for reinforcement.

ments. Eighteen troopers hustled in automobiles from the barracks of Troop H at Wyoming. When the fresh force arrived the battle was renewed, the troopers having the upper hand. They beat off the women, who threw red pepper and dry mustard into the officers' eyes, and made wholesale arrests of the participants, seventy-three being corralled in the church basement. The prisoners were subsequently removed to the county jail at Wilkes-Barre.

Four rioters suffering from bullet wounds were taken to the hospital.

One, believed to be George Gresek, died soon after admittance. He was shot in the thigh and stomach. Capt. Pitcher and Trooper Humer are at the hospital. Humer is not expected to live. Pitcher's condition is serious.

After an hour's battle Sheriff Burs restored order and told Father Kurkowski to proceed with the celebration of mass, but the priest decided to return to Scranton.

Tonight the Sheriff swore in ex-convict Detective James Price and

Thirty of the men arrested as rioters were held in contempt of court last Friday for interfering with the services on New Year's Day. Judge Fuller deferred sentence until to-morrow and told them to remain away from the church property.

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